FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

SECURITY: RESTRICTED PRIORITY: AIR POUCH

TO: Department of State

FROM: LAGOS 200 April 29, 1950

REF:

745h.00/4-2950

NEA MESSAGE CENTER 1950 MAY 9 AM 9 45

4 RECD MAY 8

ACTION NEA

INFO DCR FUR UNA OLI mls

SUBJECT: Establishment of New Africa Party, Possible Successor to Zikist Movement.

There has been recently formed in Aba, Eastern Nigeria, a political group which calls itself the New Africa Party which asserts it will ally itself with all forces aiming for the independence of Nigeria at the earliest possible date. Mr. Jaja A. WACHUKU, head of the party, states that his organization is not as yet affiliated with the National Council of Nigeria and the Cameroons but that it could be taken for granted that the New Africa Party supports the National Council.

The New Africa Party has issued a most ambitious program with the ultimate aim said to be Pan-Africanism. Leaders assert the first step will be "to federate and unify West Africa, then Black Africa and to further the cultural, moral and spiritual unification of the Negro race for the purpose of the race's realization and perpetuation".

The party announces that financing will be insured by a membership enrollment fee of two shillings and six pence (about $0.20) each supplemented by a regular monthly subscription of six pence (about $0.07).

Mr. Wachuku has declared, in somewhat equivocal terms, that his party was not meant to replace the recently banned Zikist Movement and repudiated violence as a policy. Mr. Wachuku elaborated on this attitude by stating that "Man should not destroy that which he cannot create". He also quoted Pliny as saying "There is always something new out of Africa" and the statement has been adopted as the Party's motto. The leader continued in his statement by saying that while Africa was not new, Africa was full of surprises with every age bringing along something new. "This party is going to seek that something new in every generation." The statement was concluded by saying that the New Africa Party is for the establishment of a "communocratic state" ~~which was described as a government~~ of the community for the community.

HHWilliams/mos

MAY 3 - 1950

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY E W Holmes DATE 7/16/52 RESTRICTED

RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE

TS AUTH. REASON(S)

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐

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MAY 16 1950

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Little is known in Lagos of Mr. Wachuku or of the potentialities of this new party. Government sources are inclined to discount its effectiveness but its growth will be observed with interest.

Willard Quincy Stanton
American Consul General

Copy to American Embassy, London.

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